



USTDA

U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Eurasia

Linking U.S. Businesses to Global Infrastructure Opportunities

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project preparation and partnership building activities that develop sustainable infrastructure and foster economic growth in partner countries.

USTDA in MENA/Europe/Eurasia

The Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Eurasia Region will continue working with key partners, Turkey, Egypt and Jordan, and will focus on the energy, transportation and telecommunications sectors. The Region will also continue its successful practice of responding aggressively to U.S.-company driven proposals with strong export potential in non-priority countries.

The Middle East and North Africa in particular is a region of the world confronted by security challenges which could serve as substantial constraints to economic development. Despite these challenges, the region also presents opportunities for viable investment solutions. U.S. companies continue to recognize significant investment opportunities in the region, including in infrastructure development projects. USTDA has supported many important projects in the region that have contributed to advancing critical infrastructure development while also generating U.S. exports.



Kawar Energy developing the Ma'an region for construction of a 52 MW solar power facility.

Developing Sustainable Energy in the Region

USTDA's early project preparation assistance laid the groundwork for the recent inauguration of a 52.5 MW solar power facility in Ma'an, Jordan. Working together with Kawar Energy, a private Jordanian energy company, and Colorado-based CH2M Hill, USTDA's support provided the justification for commercial financing of the largest private sector power project in the region. Arizona-based First Solar was selected as the project's Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contractor, and was chosen to supply technology for the project. Phase I of the Shams Ma'an Solar Power Generation Plant was commissioned in late 2016.

The plant, which accounts for approximately one percent of Jordan's total energy generation capacity, produces clean electricity using over 600,000 modules manufactured by First Solar. Ma'an's unique design allows the facility to generate up to 20 percent more energy than standard fixed solar power facilities.



Installation of solar power facility in Ma'an Jordan.



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Leveraging Partnerships for Win-Win Results

USTDA supported a pilot project to demonstrate how technology could improve the flow of freight traffic at the Port of Aqaba, Jordan's sole seaport. That project, led by U.S. technology provider NTELX (Vienna, Virginia), established 'Nafith,' the National Freight Information Transportation Hub. Nafith was created to provide a data-driven system to enhance the efficiency and security of Jordan's transport and trade sectors. By utilizing NTELX's technology, Nafith has become one of Jordan's leading intelligent transportation providers.

One of Nafith's top successes has been its Truck Control System (TCS) – the largest e-government system in Jordan. The TCS minimizes wait times by processing trucks quickly and smoothly through the Port of Aqaba and its terminals. The TCS has helped to synthesize information from several industry and government databases, ultimately decreasing transportation costs by an estimated 20%. The TCS has also reduced congestion and pollution, and even helped to prevent accidents.

Using Jordan as a model, Nafith has expanded its efforts to new markets – it recently launched a similar effort in Iraq, building and managing a system to process trucks passing through three ports in the Basra region and across the Kuwaiti border.

Advancing Smart Cities and Smart Grid Development

As Istanbul continues to grow with a population expected to surpass some of the largest European cities by 2020, local leaders are making investments to prepare and accommodate the expanding population.

Working with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IBB), USTDA is providing technical assistance to support Istanbul in improving city operations, enhancing crisis and disaster management, and delivering efficient, reliable public services for Istanbul residents. The project will provide a roadmap for procuring advanced IT solutions capable of aggregating data from existing municipal databases.

USTDA has also built an extensive smart grid program in Turkey by funding an Automated Demand-Side Management Pilot Project that will showcase two U.S. technology solutions to strengthen energy management solutions.



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